

terest in what is going on for or against their best interests and those of their patients, just so long will the fight for decency, honesty, and truth be a successful fight. The hope of the man whose profit is in dishonesty, is that discord may be brought about. With a profession divided into warring units, he can succeed; with a profession united in harmonious societies, all working for the common good and the public benefit, he can do nothing—he is forced to be honest or quit. Let no inuendo blind you to the actual facts and the truth in this whole matter. Every member of the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association who has attended the sessions of the Association for any considerable number of years, knows that there never was a time when the Association was so harmonious as today. The cries of “dissension,” of “boss rule,” of strife and conflict, of lack of harmony, all come from those who would most desire to see such conditions and are trying to bring them about—but, fortunately, their efforts thus far have been without result. Where is there a state association that has a journal with any particular ax to grind? We have watched the course of the state journals very carefully, and so far as we have been able to observe, they one and all are striving to promote and increase harmony and to disseminate truth and honest information of value to the members of the societies. They are more than loyal to the American Medical Association, for they realize what it is doing. Their editors see somewhat of the nastiness of the nostrum business and are sometimes, inadvertently, entangled in it. Let not inspired articles in biased publications disturb your peace of mind.

No honest student of human nature, least of all no physician with a love for his fellow man, can deny the extreme value and importance of a careful and systematic scientific study of the profoundest of physiological forces.

A long list of names might be quoted of those who have devoted years to this work and have advanced our knowledge tremendously. Yet, owing to the very nature of the subject and the loathness of individuals to tell of their intimate personal lives, progress toward a fuller understanding of some phases of sexual psychology and pathology, is very slow. One of the most recent contributions to the subject is by J. Richardson Parke; “Human Sexuality.” (See our Publications department in this issue.) There are legitimate treatises on this subject, and there are illegitimate contributions; to our mind the work in question belongs to the latter class; indeed, in some respects it is decidedly an offense to offer such a work to scientific men as a scientific treatise. Flippancy and vulgar comment, have no place in scientific discussion. But justice demands that the author be given credit for his strong plea for a more careful study of sexual inversion and kindred phenomena, by our judges and our lawyers. Is a victim of senile dementia to be harshly treated and condemned as a criminal for acts which he himself, were he sane, would abhor?

Has not the careful work of Lombroso, Krafft-Ebing, Ellis, and others, shown to any careful student that there may be and sometimes is, if the expression may be permitted, a normal abnormality; a normal inversion for the which the unfortunate individual is not to be held personally responsible? This is one of the subjects which our brothers of the legal profession might with great profit to humanity, study more carefully than they do. Aside from this modicum of commendation, the book in question is to be unhesitatingly condemned.

IRREGULARITIES IN MEDICAL SCHOOLS AND THE NECESSITY FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF CREDENTIALS.

In the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, September 1st, 1906, appeared a letter from Dr. Dudley Tait, a member of the Board of Medical Examiners of this State, in which he called attention to the improper graduation of a man by the name of Painton, by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of San Francisco. As the board, some time ago, decided to co-operate with other boards in investigating and reporting any irregularities found in medical schools, with a view to publication of any irregularities found, and as the case reported by Dr. Tait, in the journal and at the time indicated, resulted in correspondence questioning the accuracy of the facts therein, the STATE JOURNAL considered it advisable to thoroughly investigate this matter. We therefore present to you the facts in the case together with the evidence. The essential portion of the original communication in the pages of the *Journal A. M. A.* is as follows:

“May 17, 1906, H. R. Painton graduated from the Medical Department of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, San Francisco, and was given a diploma duly signed by Dr. Winslow Anderson, president, and Dr. D. A. Hodghead, dean of said college. July 31, in the office of the State Board of Medical Examiners, H. R. Painton filed his application for a license. In his affidavit mention is made of four consecutive annual courses at the above mentioned school, 1902 to 1906. Inspection of the annual announcements of the College of Physicians and Surgeons showed H. R. Painton's name in four different numbers, thus corroborating the applicant's sworn statement.

Further research, however, developed the following facts: H. R. Painton taught in the grammar school of a neighboring county from 1902 to 1904—i. e., his term of service in the capacity of teacher coincided exactly with the first two years of his alleged attendance at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, San Francisco. Confronted with the above evidence, H. R. Painton admitted having filed a false document, and gave his college attendance as only two courses. The value of H. R. Painton's faculty-bedecked di-